Patent Application No. 09/656,688, filed September 7, 2000 (abandoned); U.S. Patent Application No. 09/605,724, filed June 27, 2000 (abandoned); U.S. Patent Application No. 09/569,098, filed May 10, 2000 (allowed); U.S. Patent Application No. 09/528,784, filed March 17, 2000 (now U.S. Patent 6,451,315); U.S. Patent Application No. 09/286,488, filed April 5, 1999 (pending); U.S. Patent Application No. 08/990,571, filed December 11, 1997 (now U.S. Patent 6,214,971); U.S. Patent Application No. 08/845,258, filed April 24, 1997 (now U.S. Patent 6,183,976); U.S. Patent Application No.08/723,142, filed October 1, 1996 (now U.S. Patent 6,306,396); each a continuation-in-part of the previous application and all incorporated herein by reference.

On page 51 of the application, after the heading "CLAIMS", insert –We claim:-.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 3-8, 13, 15, and 35.

Please amend the claims 2, 12, 14, 16 18, and 36 as follows:

2.   (Amended)   An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 195.

12.   (Amended)   A fusion protein comprising the polypeptide of claim 2.

14.   (Amended)   The fusion protein of claim 12 further comprising a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 52.

16.   (Amended)   A fusion protein comprising at least one polypeptide according to claim 2 and at least one antigenic epitope of a B. microti antigen comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 36 and 39.

18.   (Amended)   A composition comprising a first component selected from the group consisting of physiologically acceptable carriers and immunostimulants, and a second component selected from the group consisting of polypeptides according to claim 2 and fusion proteins according to any one of claims 12, 14, and 16.

36.   (Amended)   A diagnostic kit for the detection of B. microti infection comprising at least one fusion protein according to any one of claims 12, 14, and 16; and a detection reagent.